

Message Text

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70

ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 DHA-02 IO-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /080 W
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R 300005Z DEC 75

FM AMEMBASS TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5809

INFO AMEMBASSY SEOUL

AMEMBASS MOSCOW

USLO PEKING

CINCPAC HONOLULLU HI

COMUSJAPAN YOKOTA JAPAN

C O N F I D E N T I A L TOKYO 18405

CINCPAC ALSO FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652 GDS

TAGS: JA, SK, PINT

SUBJECT: JSP MISSION TO SOUTHKOREA TO AID POLITICAL PRISONERS

SUMMARY: JSP INTERNATIONAL BUREAU CONFIRMS PRESS REPORTS THAT PARTY IS PLANNING MISSION TO SOUTH KOREA TO "INVESTIGATE ACTUAL CONDITIONS WITH AIM OF AIDING POLITICAL PRISONERS." SPECIFICALLY, JSP HAS RAISED CASE OF ROK UNIFIED SOCIALIST PARTY LEADER KIM CHOL, WHO IS CHARGED WITH PRO-COMMUNIST ACTIVITIES AND REPORTEDLY UNDER DETENTION. EMBASSY BELIEVES JSP'S MISSION PLAN REPRESENTS POLITICAL POSTURING RATHER THAN A SERIOUS ATTEMPT TO OPEN CONTACT WITH ROKG.

1. DEC. 19 ASAHI REPORTED JSP IS PLANNING TO DISPATCH A MISSION TO SOUTH KOREA "INVESTIGATE ACTUAL CONDITIONS OF POLITICAL PRISONERS WITH AIM OF ASSISTING THEM. IN DEC. 18 PRESS CONFERENCE, JSP INTERNATIONAL BUREAU DIR KANJI KAWASAKI REFERRED TO CASE OF ROK UNIFIED SOCIALIST PARTY LEADER KIM CHOL WHO IS CHARGED WITH PRO-COMMUNIST ACTIVITIES AND REPORTEDLY
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UNDER DETENTION. KAWASAKI SAID PURPOSE OF JSP MISSION WOULD BE

TO PREPARE REPORT ON KIM CASE FOR SUBMISSION TO SOCIALIST
SOCIALIST INTERNATIONAL TO WHICH BOTH JSP AND ROK UNIFIED SOCIALIST
BELONG.

ACCORDING TO PRESS MOST LIKELY LEADER OF PROPOSED MISSION
IS JSP VICE CHAIRMAN SABURO EDA. EXPLAINING BACKGROUND OF PLAN,
ASAHI STATED ENCOURAGEMENT FOR JSP MISSION TO SOUTH KOREA GIVEN
BY HIGH OFFICIAL TO EDA MISSION SEPT VISIT TO WASHINGTON.
ASAHI ADDED THERE HAVE RECENTLY BEEN APPROACHES ON SUBJECT
OF MISSION BY SOUTH KOREAN EMBASSY OFFICIALS HERE TO JSP DIET
MEMBERS WHO ARE "KOREAN SPECIALISTS." FURTHER,, THERE HAS BEEN IN-
CREASE IN CHORUS OF JSP MEMBERS CALLING FOR SOME KIND OF RELAT-
IONSHIP WITH SOUTH KOREA. FINALLY, ASAHI IMPLIED THAT JSP LEADERS
BELEIVE ROK REFUSAL OF ENTRANCE VISAS FOR MISSION WOULD HAVE
ADVERSE EFFECT ON ROK INTERNATIONALLY.

3. JSP INTERNATIONAL DEPUTY DIR SHOZO SUGIYAMA DEC 22 CONFIRMED
SUBSTANCE OF PRESS REPORT. HE SAID HAD TAKEN INITIATIVE WITHIN
PARTY TO PROMOTE IDEA OF MISSION FOLLOWING ENCOURAGEMENT
GIVEN FOR JSP CONTACT WITH ROK BY ASST SEC HABIB DURING EDA
MISSION. SUGIYAMA SAID THERE HAD BEEN "PRIVATE" CONTACT"
WITH ROK EMBASSY HERE, BUT NO "OFFICIAL"
CONTACT. HE SPOKE RATHER OFFHANDEDLY OF NEED TO MAKE ARRANGMENTS
WITH TRAVEL AGENT FOR MISSION'S TRIP, BUT AVOIDED DIRECT COMMENT
ABOUT TIMING.

4. COMMENT: EMBASSY BELEIVES JSP MISSION PLAN REPRESENTS POLITICAL
POSTURING RATHER THAN SERIOUS ATTEMPT TO OPEN CONTACT WITH ROKG.
WE DO NOT THINK THAT JSP LEADERSHIP IS SO NAIVE AS TO BELEIVE
ROKG WOULD GRANT VISAS FOR PURPOSES OF INVESTIGATING SITUATION
OF POLITICAL PRISONERS. THERE ARE UNDOUBTEDLY MANY JSP DIET MEMBERS
WHO WOULD LIKE CONTACT WITH SOUTH KOREA TO ASSESS POLITICAL
AND ECONOMIC SITUATION FIRST HAND AND PARTICULARLY TO CORRECT
PARTY'S OVER-INVOLVEMENT WITH NORTH KOREA. CLEARLY, HOWEVER,
THIS JSP MISSION IS NO THE WAY.
HODGSON

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